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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Currently Amended) A support attachment for mounting work implements on
2 and projecting outwardly from a ladder, the ladder including a pair of upwardly extending
3 substantially parallel side rails spaced from each other and steps extending horizontally between
4 said side rails to enable a person to climb the ladder, said side rails each having opposed first and
5 second surfaces, said support attachment comprising:

6 a spacer configured to extend across and of a breadth to non-rotatably rest on the step of
7 the ladder;

8 side rail engaging means of a length greater than the space between the side rails of the
9 ladder extending from said spacer for engaging the first surface of each of the side rails of the
10 ladder above the step engaged by said spacer ~~step engaging means~~;

11 an a elongated support structure of a length substantially the same as and extending
12 parallel to the length of said side rail engaging means for supporting work implements, said
13 support structure mounted to and extending from said spacer in a direction away from said side
14 rail ~~rails~~ engaging means and configured for placement adjacent the second surface of said side
15 rails of the ladder and projecting outwardly from the ladder;

16 said spacer being of a breadth extending along the step of the ladder on which it rests
17 sufficient to non-rotatably secure said support attachment to the step of the ladder; and

18 said side rail engaging means and said support structure being rigidly connected to said
19 ~~spacer pair of parallel spacer arms.~~

1 2. (Currently amended) The support attachment for a ladder as described in claim 1,

2 wherein:

3 said support structure for supporting work implements comprises a U-shaped
4 frame including parallel spaced side legs and a base leg extending between said side legs,
5 said base leg joined to said pair of parallel spacer arms, and

6 a rectilinear spool support rod having opposed ends is releasably mounted to said side
7 legs of said U-shaped frame;

8 whereby spools of wire can be rotatably mounted on said spool support rod at the second
9 ~~front~~ surface of the side rails of the ladder.

1 3. (Previously Amended) The support attachment of claim 2, wherein said U-shaped frame,

2 said pair of parallel spacer arms and said side rail engaging means are of one piece construction.

1 4. (Original) The support attachment of claim 1, wherein:

2 said side rail engaging means comprises a rectilinear bar having opposed ends;

3 said step engaging means comprises a pair of substantially parallel bars extending
4 from said rectilinear bar to said support structure, and

5 said support structure comprises a U-shaped frame having a base leg with opposed end
6 portions, a pair of parallel side legs extending from the end portions of said base leg, and said
7 base leg connected intermediate its end portions to said parallel bars of said step engaging
8 means; and

9 a rectilinear spool support rod having opposed ends supported by said parallel side legs of
10 said support structure.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The support attachment of claim 4, wherein said pair of parallel
2 spacer arms, said side rail engaging means and said support structure occupy a common plane,
3 and said step engaging means and said side rail engaging means are configured to support said
4 support structure in a cantilever fashion from a step of the ladder.

1 6. (Cancelled).

1 7. (Currently Amended) The support structure of claim 1, wherein said pair of parallel
2 spacer arms, said side rail engaging means and said support structure define oppositely facing C-
3 shaped recesses which register about the side rails of the ~~step~~ ladder.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The support structure of claim 1, wherein said pair of parallel
2 spacer arms comprises a pair of substantially parallel spaced apart bars extending from said side
3 rail engaging means for resting at spaced intervals on the step of the ~~step~~ ladder whereby said
4 pair of parallel spacer arms maintains said support structure in a fixed attitude extending away
5 from ~~with respect to the step of~~ the ladder on which said pair of parallel spacer arms rests.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for storing and dispensing spools of electrical wire on a wire caddy with the wire caddy mounted on a step ladder having parallel upwardly extending side rails and a step extending horizontally between the side rails, wherein said wire caddy is comprised of a support bar of a length greater than the space between the side rails of the ladder and connected to a pair of parallel spacer bars, said spacer bars further connected to a base leg of a length greater than the space between the side rails of the ladder and having parallel legs at distal ends thereof and a spool support rod extending between said parallel legs, comprising the steps of:

positioning the support bar on one side of and in engagement with the upwardly extending side rails of the ladder,

positioning the base leg on the other side of the upwardly extending side rails of the ladder,

resting the spacer bars upon the step of the said ladder;

~~maintaining said wire caddy in a fixed, non-rotatable position by the engagement of said pair of parallel spacer bars on the step of the ladder;~~

suspending said spool support rod between said distal ends of said parallel legs;

securing said spool support rod to said distal end of each of said parallel legs with a suitable fastening means; ~~and~~

mounting spools of wire onto said spool support rod such that said spools of wire project outwardly from said ladder; and

maintaining said wire caddy in a fixed, non-rotatable position on the step of the ladder by

27 the engagement of said pair of parallel spacer bars at spaced positions on the step of the ladder
28 and by engagement of the support bar against the upwardly extending side rails of the ladder
29 when the spools of wire are at any position along the support rod.

1 10. (Cancelled).

1 11. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of configuring
2 said support bar, pair of spacer bars and base leg of said wire caddy so as to form oppositely
3 facing C-shaped recesses, each for registering about a side rail of the ladder, and engaging each
4 of the oppositely facing C-shaped recesses about a side rail of the ladder.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the spool support rod is suspended between
2 said parallel legs by positioning said spool support rod through openings in said distal ends of
3 said parallel legs.

1 13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said securing step further
2 includes positioning locking pins in opposing ends of said spool support rod.

1 14. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein mounting said spools of wire
2 onto said spool support rod comprises the steps of:

removing one end of said spool support rod from a secured position at the distal end of one of the parallel legs, disengaging said fastening means and sliding said spool support rod through an opening in said distal end of one of said parallel legs; threading said spooled wire onto said spool support rod; and securing said spool support rod back into position between said parallel legs.

15. (Currently Amended) A wire caddy attachable to a ladder, the ladder having parallel upwardly extending side rails and horizontal steps extending between said side rails, said wire caddy comprising:

a U-shaped frame having a base leg and opposed parallel legs mounted to said base leg for placement on one side of the steps of the ladder;

a spool support rod supported at its ends by said parallel legs for supporting a spool of wire;

a support bar extending parallel to said base leg of said U-shaped frame of the of a length greater than the space between the side rails of the ladder for placement on the other side of the steps of the ladder;

a pair of spacer bars rigidly interconnecting said U-shaped frame to said support bar for extending across a step of the ladder and spaced from each other a distance sufficient to balance said U-shaped frame on the ladder when wire is paid out from the spool of wire on the spool support rod; and

15 said U-shaped frame, said support bar and said pair of spacer bars formed in a common
16 plane;
17 whereby said pair of spacer bars engages the step of a ladder and said support bar is
18 positioned on one side of the side rails of the ladder and said U-shaped frame is positioned on the
19 other side of the side rails of the ladder, and said pair of spacer bars maintains said wire caddy in
20 a fixed, non-rotatable position on the ladder, and wherein a spool of wire is mounted on the spool
21 support rod and projects outwardly from the ladder, and wire is adapted to be paid out from the
22 spool of wire.

1 16. (Original) The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein the U-shaped frame is of rigid
2 construction and has sufficient strength to support said wire caddy when fully-loaded with
3 spooled wire.

1 17. (Original) The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein said spool support rod is secured
2 between said parallel legs such that it does not inadvertently detach from said U-shaped frame
3 during use.

1 18. (Previously amended) The wire caddy of claim 17, wherein the spools of wire are
2 rotatable about said spool support rod.

1 19. (Cancelled)

1 20. (Previously Amended) The wire caddy of claim 19, further comprising said spacer bars
2 constructed and arranged so that when said spacer bars are placed on the step of the ladder said
3 spool support rod is oriented horizontally.

1 21. (Previously Amended) The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein each end of said support bar
2 is constructed and arranged so that the ends of the support bar engage a rear surface of a side rail
3 of said ladder at a position directly above a step engaged by said spacer bars.

1 22. (Previously Amended) The wire caddy of claim 15, wherein said spacer bars are
2 intermediately positioned from each distal end of said support bar and said base leg so as to
3 define oppositely facing c-shaped recesses for engagement about a pair of side rails of the ladder.

1 23. (Cancelled).